

Appln. Serial No. 09/696,491  
Amendment dated February 23, 2006  
Reply to Restriction Requirement Mailed January 24, 2006

REMARKS

Withdrawn claims 2-4, 6-10, 13, and 15-19 have been cancelled. Claims 20-24, 26, 28, 30-32, 37, and 38 have been indicated as being allowed.

No fees are believed to be due as a result of this reply. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (NRT.0031US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2-23-2006



---

Dan C. Hu  
Registration No. 40,025  
TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C.  
8554 Katy Freeway, Suite 100  
Houston, TX 77024  
Telephone: (713) 468-8880  
Facsimile: (713) 468-8883